

DDS EMPLOYEE NEWS

Governor M. Jodi Rell

Commissioner Peter H. O'Meara

Edition 17

May 8, 2008

Spring 2008 Supervisor Certificate Program

Commencement Ceremonies for the Spring 2008 Supervisor Certificate Program ~ *Learning to Lead* ~ took place on April 8, 2008 at Central Connecticut State University.

Commissioner Peter H. O'Meara presented the candidates with their certificates. Dr. John Houchin, North Regional Director, Kevin McCullough, West Region Assistant Regional Director, and Kevin Lawton, Assistant Budget Director, were on hand to support their supervisors. It truly was a spectacular day.

Special thanks to the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) staff and Three Rivers Community College for delivering such an exciting program. DDS instructors included: James Welsh, Esq., Art Dessureau, Nancy Harnick, Len Erzasus, Lidia Gomes, Scott Bell and Amanda Anduaga-Roberson.

Pictured below are Alan Mardirosian and Luis Ayala from Central Office; Mary Calabro, Jeanette Connole, Debra Giambattista, Alice McKelvey, Sandra McNally, Wanda Mendoza, Sylvaus Okorie, Jayne Sisco, Diane Smith, Peter Sylvester and Linda Ward from the North Region; John Adams, Richard Camerato, Rosemarie Cannon, Brenda Dunn, Deborah Matias, Dawne Recinos and Elena Tarbox from the South Region; and Joanne Dyer, Sheri Ferguson, Melanie Gugliotti, Beverly James, Kathleen Mahmood, Sylvia Matthews, Janette Roberts, Mary Ann Robinson, Diane Santo, Frances Stempert and Janette Steward from the West Region.

Candidates for the Spring 2008 Supervisor Certificate Program



For more information regarding the program requirements, please see the DDS website page at: www.ct.gov/dds.

Equal Opportunity Assurance Division Invitation

The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) Equal Opportunity Assurance (EOA) Division is visiting a site near you. Do you have questions about the DDS Affirmative Action plan, employee rights, or other topics as they relate to equal employment opportunity? The EOA Division is holding 'informal' sessions in various locations during May and June throughout the Department. All DDS staff are invited to stop by to meet and talk to EOA staff. Please join us. The following is our **June** schedule:

REG. LOCATION	ROOM	DAY	DATE	TIME
Newington Hfd Ctr	Conf. Room 2	Tuesday	June 3, 2008	11:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m.
Norwich	Conf. Rm. 341	Thursday	June 5, 2008	9:00 a.m.- 11:00 a.m.
Wallingford	Conf. Rm. B	Thursday	June 5, 2008	9:00 a.m.- 11:00 a.m.
New Haven	Conf. Rm.	Thursday	June 5, 2008	2:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m.
Willimantic	Training Rm.	TBA	TBA	11:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m.
East Hartford	Training Rm. 3FL	Tuesday	June 17, 2008	9:00 a.m.- 11:00 a.m.

North Region - Client Visit



Marlene Fein, Lead Investigator, Mr. Joseph Winful, Patty's favorite RN, John Houchin, Regional Director and Tammy Zamichieri, Rehab Therapist 2.

On April 3, 2008, Ms. Patty Mordas of Wappingwood Community Living Arrangement (CLA) visited the East Hartford Department of Developmental Services (DDS) Regional Office, to deliver a beautiful quilted blanket that Marlene Fein, North Region Lead Investigator, purchased. Ms. Mordas and her staff, Ms. Tammy J. Zamichieri, design and create quilts for retail sales.

Ms. Mordas uses special adaptive equipment to run the sewing machine and is very particular when she selects fabric and design for her quilts. An exhibit of her work can be found on the third floor of the North Regional Offices.

Retirement: The Biggest Job You'll Ever Have

By Abby Anderson, MS, CEAP, LPC

Baby boomers unite! If you read or listen to the news nowadays, you'll hear the term "Baby Boomer" a lot and if you're born between 1946 and 1964, you're one of them. It's a pretty large group and retirement is looming. The first of the boomers are eligible to get Social Security at age 62 beginning this year. The future and the impact of their retirement will consume lots of time and energy.

Whether or not you're in this group, retirement is something which most people anticipate eagerly. It may be something that we procrastinate planning for because it may seem intimidating or overwhelming to consider. Like any issue, however, the sooner it gets addressed, the better the outcome for you and those you care about. So the first step may be to look at what comes to mind for you when you think of retirement and what concerns may be holding you back from starting the planning process.

Call Solutions EAP at 1-800-526-3485 for assistance for all of life's challenges. It's free, confidential and open to your family members. Check us out on-line at www.solutions-eap.com

Department of Developmental Services

www.ct.gov/dds

Central Office: 860-418-6000 ♦ North Region: 860-263-2500 ♦ South Region: 203-294-5049

West Region: 203-805-7400 ♦ Southbury Training School: 203-586-2000

DDS Employee News Contacts

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West Region: Eunice Rivera ♦ Southbury Training School: Kathie Logan

Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

www.solutions-eap.com ♦ 24/7 Assistance ♦ 1-800-526-3485

Questions?

E-mail: Joan Barnish, Director of Communications ♦ joan.barnish@ct.gov or call 860-418-6044

WWW.CT.GOV/DDS